INDIANAPOLIS, SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 10, 1902.

## LANGUAGE OF THE LAW not carry on this beneficent project under the present law of our State, expressed in Section 2214:

INDIANA STATUTES CONTAIN MANY VERBAL INACCURACIES.

Legislators Have Not in All Cases Given Heed to the Accepted Meanings of Words.

COURTS MUST USE DISCRETION

TO CONSTRUE LITERALLY WOULD DEFEAT PURPOSE OF LAW.

Instances in Which a Liberal Interpretation Is Necessary-Code Clear as a Whole.

One of the wisest decisions ever given by an Indiana court is that found in Ross vs. State, 9 Indiana Appeals 35, where the court held that where it is clearly apparent that a word was not used in a statute in its ordinary or usual meaning, and to so construe it would defeat the evident intent of the Legislature in the passage of such statute, the court will give to such word the meaning that it is deemed the Legisla-

sense in which it was used. If it were not for this view of the austrueing the statutes-though this view is the highest kind of teaching. ordinary and usual sense"-many of our respected business men would be paying fines news service of several daily papers; some war might have suffered the death penalty Indiana judge and jury, and one statute almost makes it a crime to think evil of

just as they were passed in the Legislature, though he found many inaccuracies in the

its enemies giving them aid and comfort, prison for life, in the discretion of the State of Indiana, though he has never been a citizen of that State and does not owe allegience to it; that is, a citizen of any nation at war with the United States is guilty of the crime universally regarded all of Browning's Lyrics-the music, paint- Wordsworth also invariably chooses and is contrary to the Constitution of the United States; but, of course, it would receive a liberal interpretation by the courts,

"VOCATION" THE WORD MEANT. fishing, quarreling, at common labor or engaged in his usual avocation (works of charity and necessity excepted) shall be fined in any sum not more than ten or less than one dollar." Now, every schoolboy that "avocation" means "recrea-"sports"-literally, "calling away" from one's "vocation" or business. To construe this statute according to the letter would make every one playing tennis, golf, riding a bicycle or driving for pleasure liable to a fine (if these were their usual means of recreation), while the man who kept his store open would escape punishment. But it is clear that the Legislature meant "vocation," not "avocation," and

so it is construed by the courts. From Section 1998, which says, "Whoever makes, composes or dictates, prints or writes a libel to be published or procures the same to be done shall be deemed guilty of criminal libel," it will be seen that, contrary to the usual laws against libel, it is criminal in Indiana merely to lence in "My Last Duchess;" in clerical write down your unfounded suspicions in | hollowness and hypocrisy in "The Bishop regard to others if you intend to publish | Orders His Tomb;" in love in "The Last them even if your intentions are changed | Ride Together," and in an exposition of ulor frustrated. "Publish" means to com- timate religious truth in his great mastermunicate to a third person, yourself and piece, "Saul." This last piece, "Saul," the supposed bad person being the other | Wordsworth's "Ode to Immortality" and two. Therefore if you write a letter to a St. John's Gospel are the world's three friend saying bad things about your neigh- | mounts of transfiguration. bor you are liable to a prosecution for |

A COMPREHENSIVE STATUTE.

enterprise or scheme of chance of any de- fault common to all of his kind?

newspapers entering the State are liable | persons to a fine of at least \$10. This might seem a small matter, but one must not think immunity is to be purchased by paying the | Our earth, each only as God wills fine; such statutes as the one last quoted | Can work-God's puppets, best and worst, are prohibitive, that is, they mean that the offender should refrain from doing the acts stated, and the fine is a simple way of giving him a gentle hint not to commit the offense again. The enforcement of this | Power shall fall short in, or exceed! law is, of course, in the province of the executive branch of the government; the to coin apt names either of persons or

One might be surprised to find that if he | weaver, Marner, lived, illustrates. So with wished to start a large quail farm, to re- Browning. What a felicitious name for a printed New Testament and a book constock the entire State with quail and also literary back is "Gigadibs;" for a little girl keep a supply for the market, he could "Pippa", or for a ruffian "Bluephox." How

not carry on this beneficent project under

"Whoever exposes for sale or has possession for the purpose of selling any quail, pheasant, prairie chicken or wild duck that has not been killed by shooting shall be fined \$1 for each and every quail so sold, exposed for sale or possessed for the purpose of selling." This statute is construed strictly to prevent the trapping of game birds. Scientists, however, may catch birds and gather their eggs if they give a bond of \$200 to insure their acting in good faith.

One who thinks he will escape from the jurisdiction of Indiana by going upon the Ohio river, which is part of the commonwealth of Kentucky, will fall into a grave error, for Indiana has concurrent jurisdiction over crimes committed on the river. As it is put, "Virginia parted with her jurisdiction, not with her soil," when she ceded her territory to the United States.

Taking the code of Indiana as a whole, it is safe to say that no State has one more plain and practical, more sensible or more easily understood. It is to be hoped, however, that in future legislation more care will be taken to avoid verbal errors, and the use of words which are not considered best by masters of English. The continual use of "proven" for "proved," for instance, is certain to give the Indianapolis lawyer a dialect which ill becomes a representative of the town which is supposed to lead all other Western cities in culture.

#### ROBERT BROWNING AND OTHERS

Rugged, lovely and difficult, is still my judgment upon this Robert Browning, (just as I expressed it three years ago in the Journal) after a delightful three weeks ture intended it to have according to the with him here at Chautauqua, under a most competent teacher-Richard Burton, nimself a poet. It takes a poet to interpret thority and liberty of the court in con- a poet, and often interpretative recitation

may conflict with Section 240 of Burns's Re- But for his obscurity, Browning would vised Statutes, which says, "Words and easily rank as the leading poet of the last phrases shall be taken in their plain or century. As it is, Tennyson out-ranks him in popularity, owing to his immensely superior art, although he was greatly Brownweekly: the State might be without the | ing's inferior in grasp and range of thought and robustness of spirit. Tennyson was of our esteemed enemies in the Spanish and is vacillating-one day up in the garret and the next down in the cellar, and if they had fallen into the hands of a strict | toward the close of his life, in neither place | significant the author's Scripture quotation

Naturally we compare Wordsworth with Browning. The latter had an advantage Mr. Burns, in his last revision of the code, over the former, of living fifty years later, Browning is seldom the poet of the subhas wisely left the wording of the statutes | and consequently of enjoying the enormous | merged tenth. His characters and subprogress of human thought in the mean- jects are almost always drawn from the time. The last fifty years have been the upper classes. In this he is strangely unuse of language which should be corrected. | most brilliant in the world's intellectual like his great competitors. One of the un-What seems to be a curious oversight history. Wordsworth lived a hermit's life mistakable marks of genius is its ability of our lawmakers is found in Section 1975 upon the hills of the lake district, while to glority and make beautiful the commonof the last revision of Burns's Annotated | Browning spent his life "in among the place. Of this truth there are endless illus-Statues, which says, "Whoever levies war | things of men" at London and in Italy, trations. Take Abraham Lincoln's "The against this State, or knowingly adheres to and was daily in contact with such spirits | Lord must love the common people, there as Spencer, Darwin, Huxley, George Eliot | are so many of them." or "You can fool is guilty of treason against the State of and Tennyson. Hence, Browning is an up some of the people all the time and some Indiana, and, upon conviction thereof shall to date thinker, while Wordsworth had no part of the time, but you can't fool all the suffer death or be imprisoned in the state | conception of the problems of to-day. And | people all the time." Burns is another ilyet how vastly more clearly expressed are | lustration. Take all his beautiful girlsjury." It will be seen readily that by a the ideas of Wordsworth upon, for example, "Highland Mary," "My Nannie O." "Bettie strict construction of this section, a person future life, than those of Browning. Words- and Peggy," and who not else?-and there may be convicted of treason against the worth's ode upon immortality is upon every is not a pair of shoes and stockings in the cultivated tongue, but none except a whole putfit. His best poems have no metaphysician can read Browning's higher subjects than two dogs, a

as the most heinous. This is clearly not in | ing and religious poems, and "The Ring | glorlies common events. In three lines he accordance with the ideas of treason in and the Book." The lyrics when unraveled has immortalized Peter Bell-a Cumberstatutes and the common law, and besides have the same subtle charm as of yore land clodhopper: when I first read them. But who wants, in reading a love song, to stop at every third line and ask "What the dickens does and if Admiral Cervera and his companions | this mean?" Take "Porphyria's Lover," had been sent here instead of to Annapolis, for example. Who can make any sense they would have received as courteous out of it except as from a mad-house cell, treatment as was given to them in Mary- as it was originally labeled? The way it is now read is to regard it as a study in the rapture or despairs of love. But the The case cited above as an authority for | difficulty is that the lover first strangles the liberal interpretation of the statutes | Porphyria with her long yellow hair, and came up on an indictment which followed then they rapturously woo each other the the language of Section 2086, which says: rest of the long rainy night. If this is "Whoever, being over fourteen years of not putting the cart before the horse, it age, is found on the first day of the week, is difficult to imagine what is. Take ancommonly called Sunday, rioting, hunting, other lyric-for example, "By the Fireside," Think of putting your arms around not by the head. As against the if he was quite sure it wasn't too great a your wife and saving.

"Saisiaz" and know what it all means.

'If two lives join there is oft a scar They were one and one, with a shadowy

What in heaven's name does that mean? When, in the heyday of youth, one goes a of all our love songs what was ever better than "A Woman's Last Word:"

"Be a god and hold me With a charm; Be a man and fold me With thine arm.

"Meet, if thou require it, Both demands. Laying flesh and spirit

In thy hands!

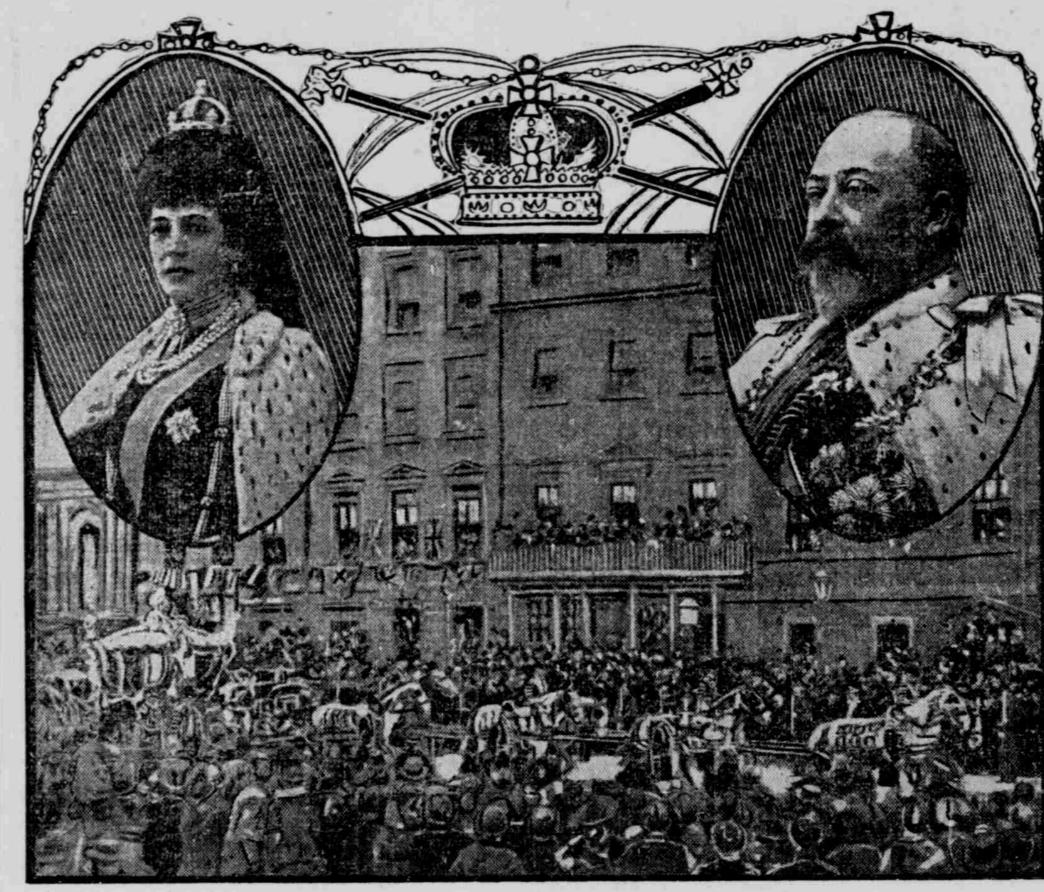
Browning has reached the high-water mark of poetry a dozen times; in music in "Abt Vogler;" in the philosophy of life in "Rabbi Ben Ezra;" in a picture of malevo-

criminal libel even though you should wheat and chaff as the ponderous "Ring immediately burn the letter without show- and the Book," the longest, the dullest, ing it to any one. But it would be a and, in many places, the most beautiful strange judge who would not interpret this | poem in our language? Here we find our Robert at his best and his worst. If we could only burn all but four of these twelve had this power. Everett and Choate and One of the most strict and comprehensive | books, reserving the prologue and the epiof the acts is that against lotteries and logue, how much happier would the world schemes involving the getting of money or | be! But this is the fault of all great auproperty by chance. Section 2172, concern- thors. Wordsworth has written some of ing lotteries, is as follows: "Whoever | the silliest things human brain ever coined. writes, prints, advertises or publishes in Not over half of Shakspeare is worth the any way, an account of any lottery, gift | reading. Why hold Robert Browning for a

scription, by whatever name, style or title Of the plays of Browning-if "In a Balthe same may be denominated or known, | cony" and "Pippa Passes" can be called stating when and where the same is to be | plays-the lovely little Pippa and "A Blot | drawn, or the prizes therein or any of them, in the 'Scutcheon" seem to me the best. The or the price of a ticket, or showing therein | first is almost universally used by our stage where such ticket may be obtained, or in readers, but only the last has ever been put dying President to "Nearer, my God, to any way giving publicity to such lottery, on the boards. While you must buy a guide gift, enterprise or scheme of chance, shall | book to interpret her little songs, yet to me be fined not more than \$500 nor less than | "Pippa Passes" grows in beauty every time I read it. Its key is the enormous value in It is plain from this section that several | the world of little things as well as obscure

> "All service ranks the same with God: If now, as formerly, He trod Paradise, His presence fills Are we; there is no last nor first. say not 'A small event!' Why 'small?' Costs it more pain than this, ye call 'A great event,' should come to pass, Than that? Untwine me from the mass Of deeds which make up life, one deed

One of the marks of genius is the ability courts would probably construe it to the places. George Eliot's "Doricote Mill" or the little village of "Raviloe," where the YESTERDAY'S CORONATION PROCESSION.



[Drawn from a Recent Rehearsal.]

when Pluephox is first introduced. "He maketh the sun to shine on the evil as well

Under Dr. Burton I have once more read | O'Shanter," "The Jolly Beggars," etc.

"A primrose by a river's brim

A yellow princrose was to alm, And it was nothing more. It is common to speak of Browning as a that the great mysteries of life and at all.' death are solved by the heart and

batants ranged on either side. The middle doctrine of meliorism seems to me preferable. This world is neither the best possi-

ble nor the worst possible. It is as bad as needs be but constantly growing better. est kind of poverty-that which enters into the life of the great masses of humanity and sweetens their lives and puts heart into their struggles, we must turn from the great names which the world delights to honor, to those humbler ones to which the world gives scant notice. Of our great poets, Burns and Longfellow tried by this test are greater benefactors of the world than Wordsworth, Shelley or Browning. But there is a greater book of poetry tried by above poets or their times or subsequent colaborers have ever written. I dare to say and do now and here say it that when we apply these ultimate tests of vision and uplift, that greater poetry can be Did one ever see such a gigantic mix of found in our hymn books than in all the costly editions and anthologies of our poets now before the public. Vision-the ability to see beyond the things of time and beneath events-is the dividing line bestatesman and the opportunist, the and the seer. Burke, Lincoln and Webster

is the fact that for 10 cents-the price of a

cigar-a poor man can buy an excellently-

taining six hundred of the world's greatest

D. P. BALDWIN.

the small-fry talkers of to-day lack it Colonel Ingersoll had marvelous insight, but no outsight. He could not see in spirit anything but exquisitely organized but force, or beyond death anything except "a windowless palace of rest." this great intellect, immortality was dream of love kissing the lips of death." Do you want to study the question of our future life? It is beyond the reach reason. But go to the old forgotten hymn book and read, "I would not live alway, I took him home. ask not to stay," or to a recent hymn beginning, "We shall sleep, but not forever; there shall come a glorious dawn." is it a question of God whether he is a per-Does the mystery of life press Repeat "Gently Lord O Gently Lead Us." Here in four verses we have the whole of life's problems and their solution spread out before us. When the crushing hand of affliction lies heavily upon you, Shakspeare or Browning will be of small use to you. Turn then to those mounts of transfiguration which you will find scattered on every page of this same hymn book. Do you want to solve the Christ problem-God, man or myth? Open again this unfashionable book and turn to such hymns as "Just As I Am without One Plea," or "Love Divine, All Else Excelling." I repeat it that in the hymn book as nowhere else, except the Bible. poetry passes up into vision, faith becomes sight and the real presence draws near us. Perfumed as it is with the divine spirit. his same hymn book is a supplemental Bible-in fact here we hear the whir of ble atmosphere of our heavenly theme What a comment upon Christian effort

ACROBATIC FEAT AT A CIRCUS NOT DOWN ON THE PROGRAMME.

An Incident That Relates to a Trombone and a Man-The Celebration of a Birthday.

The coming of another circus suggests an episode that occurred under one of the big white tents during the last "show day" in Indianapolis, and which has never before been in print for the simple reason that a newspaper man was the hero-or more correelly, the comedian-of that little drama of daily life. The young man had taken his best girl to the evening performance and the two of them were perched high upon one of the top rounds of the reserved scat waists, Panama hats and palm-leaf tans. The tent was packed from the ground up, and there wasn't an empty seat anywhere. As the performances in the many rings came to a conclusion and the inevitable grand finals, the young man, who had been he? Is he? That depends upon what gazing about with a troubled expression, hit

philosophy is: If it is the solution of upon what he considered a happy thought. loaded down with subtle speculation. But | wards the exit," he said. "I'll tell you if the claim is founded on intuition and vis- what we'd better do-let's drop down under ion, Browning's claim is of the the seats and we can then make our way highest. His constant insistence is to the exit without getting into the crowd

The young lady said that she was willing scientific speculation and skepticism of drop from their seats to the ground below. his day, Browning all the time interposed a | Oh, it was no drop at all, he declared, and steady "I believe"-"I have felt." "See the besides there was the soft sod underneath Christstand." He repuliated, or at least to break the force of their contact with the was a Christian. He blended evangelical people about them were becoming mixed up christianity and subjective idealism. I do in the great sweltering throng, making not dwell upon his optimism. This part such slow progress toward the fresh night of his message has been written to air outside, these two wise ones proceeded death. The truth sems to me to be that to carry out their shrewd scheme. He there is a hopelers contest raging between | dropped first, of course. Holding on to the optimism and pessimism, with mighty com- wooden seat he wriggled between the space dividing the two topmost tiers, and after hanging for a moment in midair, let go his How far he did actually fall he doesn't know to this day, but he describes his sen-When, however, we reach the very high- sation as similar to that experienced by celebrated aeronaut that fell out of his balloon and lived to tell the tale.

Just when he had given up all hope of ever reaching the ground he struck the earth, and struck it hard. He fell upon his back and lay sprawling in the grass half stunned. With glassy eyes upturned he could see his best girl making ready to follow after him. He tried to call out to her. this standard than any and everything the but the breath had been completely shaken out of him. He wanted to tell her that he had made a mistake in his calculations and that, as she valued her life she had better not take that fatal drop. But it was no use; the girl was game, and it was too dark underneath the seats for her to see the prostrate form of her admirer. She clutched tween the orator and the speaker, the the seat, crawled through the space, and down she came-down upon the young

She wasn't hurt in the least herself, but her wise friend was all but out. He managed to get to his feet, and by the time she matter; or back of this universe anything | had brushed the dirt from his clothes and helped him get the "stove" out of his hat he was quite willing to put himself into her hands for safe-keeping. So she took him by the hand and showed him the proper way out of the tent, and got him on a car and

A trombone may have its place in an orchestra or brass band, but the most arbone, all by itself and left alone to its own sure to lead him astray and prove his undoing when it gets him all to itself.

There is a man with a trombone up on North New Jersey street-or to put the matter more truthfully, there is a tromgood folk of the neighborhood are beginning to think about turning in for the night the trombone gets the man away in an upangels' wings and breathe the unmistaka- stairs open window, from which the noise may easily spread itself over the entire community, and gets him to do his worst. "Asleep in the Deep" is the favorite se-

that have the man's welfare at heart to Krakatoa, in the Straits of Sunda, 1883; his house, a hundred yards distant, over bone, but the man does not seem to realize | destruction of Pompeli, in 79 A. D. History | and attached to sapling poles. He and his taking a summer vacation; other well- ing herself as she has been from the begin- station, meaning persons have tried time and again | ning of the year it need not be surprising | without success to borrow the trombone if the present seismic era culminates in anfor an indefinite period, under some pretext | other cataclysm.

The climax came one evening during the last week. The man and the trombone had been making night hideous, as usual, in their upstairs open window. The man had paused long enough in his operations to turn the instrument upside down, while leaning out of the window, and shake out the liquid air in the manner peculiar to all players of wind instruments. Suddenly the trombone slipped from his hands and fell with a crash upon the sidewalk below. There were exclamations of delight from various neighboring porches, where the men of the locality were smoking their evening cigars. Everybody thought "The end has come at last," and heaved tremendous section, overlooking the sea of white shirt- | sighs of relief. The neighbors watched the man disappear hastily from the window, and they smiled. They observed him gather up the trombone from the sidewalk a moment later, and they chuckled. They saw him carefully examine the thing and then seat himself on the front step of his porch, and they laughed gleefully. And then-but the end is too sad for details. It's quite enough to say that the trombone and the man spent the rest of the evening down here on the porch-and that "Asleep in the Deep" had never before been played so continuously and so frightfully as upon that memorable occasion.

He was celebrating his birthday in the time-honored manner peculiar to one of his kind. He had started out on his triumphant travels somewhere in the vicinity of Ohio and Illinois streets and had journeyed down through the heart of the "levee" in a gloriously happy frame of mind. He had doubted, the dogmas of the church, and yet | earth. And so, while the poor, unknowing | stopped in so many "emporiums" while on his way down the crowded thoroughfare (it he was fast becoming terribly confused on All of those vessels nearest to Charleston of the "parlor" he paused, braced himself against the brick wall of the building and informed the passers-by that "he was thirty-three beers old to-night and was havin' a splendish time"-whatever that meant.

A few moments later he ambled into the parlor and had a dollar changed into pennies by the cashier. Then, ignoring the phonographs, he started in to go the rounds | in the sea, a few miles off the mouth of of the various kinetoscopes. But he didn't the harbor, great flames bursting up get very far. The first series of views through the water and engulfing the boats made a hit with him, and, evidently decid- of a fishing fleet there gathered in the ing to let well enough alone, he stationed | calm for the noonday meal and slesta of himself as firmly as possible in front of the | the crew. I believe, and all the coastwise machine, his eyes glued to the "view- seamen with whom I have talked have exglass," and there he stayed. Penny after | pressed their belief to me, that such a volpenny he dropped into the slot and time and | canic eruption | preceded | the Charleston again he surveyed the same pictures as earthquake and was its immediate cause. they appeared and reappeared. The pro- | Else how did this little steamer so absoprietor of the establishment finally sug- lutely disappear from the face of the gested to him that there were other pic- waters? This theory is supported by the ture machines just as good, but the pleased | fact that at Summerville, twenty-two miles patron expressed himself as more than sat- from Charleston, and at other points nearer isfied. And he stuck by his chosen machine | to Charleston, fissures opened in the earth, until every one of his pennies had disap- from which came gases, steam and jets peared into the slot. Then he straightened of flame. These are phenomena of volup, beamed upon the proprietor with radiant good humor and said, as he waved his hand and took his departure: "That's | they increased in force and activity the the time I got a run for monish, ol' man."

### IN THE GOSSIP'S CORNER

While, humanly speaking, this world of ours has been making long strides toward peace, during the present year, as witness the end of the Philippine rebellion, the restoration of peace in South Africa, the agreement for a reduction of armaments dent lover of music will admit that a trom- | by Chile and Argentina and the reported proposition by the King of Italy looking to resources, is an outrage and a disgrace. the same end in Europe, geologically speak- the chorus of "Rule Britannia." One of the decent society of cornets, flutes, clari- there have been years in which losses of nets and things, it is not to be trusted, and | life, if recorded statistics may be relied no matter how thorough a harmonist its on, have been much greater, it is doubtful with brother musicians, the trombone is earthquakes and volcanic disturbances have been so many or so widespread. Australia, the only continent without a volcanoe, is the only one that has not reported | Coronation Ode. earth tremors more or less numerous and bone with a man. Every evening when the | the record that within historic days as re- Country Life in America, gards that continent, no earthquake ever has been reported. The wave of seismic disturbances has traveled quite around the attribute of the great earthquakes and volcanic eruptions of the past has been relection, and the irony of the thing is al- peated, and in the case of the Martinique most unbearable, for sleep is entirely out disaster there was the new feature of a of the question under such circumstances, great populace destroyed, almost in the brotherhood of the wild wood,

twinkling of an eye, in a vast sheet of flame generated from the ignition of volcanic gases.

The list is not a long one, as compared with the one I compiled for an issue of the Journal soon after the West Indian disaster; nor, it might be said with equal truth, was that list long in comparison with what it might have been made, but as compared with the records at hand for any one year it is imposing both for the number and the magnitude of the outbreaks.

In January Nova Scotia, Croatia, Mexico and Lisbon were shaken.

In February there were visitations in Russia and Schemacha. Several cities in Turkey and two in Italy

were shaken in March. In April there was the great earthquake that destroyed Quezaltenango in Guatemala, and there were several shocks in Ice-

May, which has been the most prolific month for both seismle and volcanie disturbances since history began, witnessed the great outbreak in Martinique; earthquakes and eruptions in St. Vincent; earthquakes in Spain and two districts in France; the minor eruption of Mount Redoubt in Washington, and earthquakes in Croatia, Mexico, Guatemala, at San Francisco and in Florida, South Africa and Greece.

In June there were earthquakes in Italy, Russia and Chile and the volcanic outbreaks of Mount Baker and Mount Chaco; earthquakes in Cheshire, Sicily, India and the Himalayas, and volcanic recrudescence in the West Indies.

The July record covers Turkey and Salonica in Europe, decreasing shocks in the West Indies and Guatemala, and in the United States shocks at such widely scattered points as California, Nebraska, Michigan and South Dakota. Shocks also continued from the 3th to the 19th at various points in the basin of the Persian gulf.

shocks at most of the points visited in July, with the addition of Iowa, Mexico, Portugal and Spain. If this record is kept up, 1902 may well pass into history as the year when the earth trembled.

It is worthy of remembrance that the painted running gear of a farm wagon. the anniversaries of the great eruption of hind the counter with a wire running to discourage his association with the trom- the Charleston earthquake, 1836, and the the jagged necks of bottles for insulators, has a way of repeating itself in the way of | brother practiced telegraphy, hoping some

I have always held that the Charleston

earthquake was not an earthquake proper, but that it was subsidiary to a volcanic convulsion. I know this is not in accord with the scientific theories of the geologists and the geognosts; but then, I am not a scientist, and I find myself in this regard in very good company, for nearly all the ntelligent seafarers along the Atlantic coast believe substantially as I do. It is a matter of record with the Weather Bureau, then a branch of the War Department, that for several days prior to the 31st, the day of the earthquake, there were no atmospheric disturbances along the Atlantic coast, and that along the South Atlantic coast in particular it was almost a flat calm. On the 30th a small steamer that had been purchased by the Nicaraguan government and fitted out in Baltimore to serve as a gunboat and revenue cutter in the waters of that country left Hampton Roads for her long voyage. On the morning of the 31st she was reported at a point off the North Carolina coast, indicating a speed that if continued would have placed her, at the earthquake hour, a little after 9 at night, about thirty miles east northeast of Charleston. From that day to this she has never been heard of. No floating wreckage was found that could be identified as from her, but a piece of a hatch grating and a small fragment of a charred and broken white boat were seen and reported once, a few miles northeast of where she should have been at the time of the earthquake. The set of the ocean current would have carried those fragments steam and sail, known to be on the coast at that time afterward reached port in safety and none of them reported being in height and proceeding in various direction, thus indicating a concentric progression from an identical origin, and coastwise points also reported tidal waves.

X X X At the time of the destruction of Anjer, coincident with the Krakatoa eruption, the first phenomenon was a volcanic outburst canic and not of seismic origin. They continued for several months, and whenever earth tremors were the most noticeable. So, under the circumstances. I think there is some ground for disagreeing with the accepted scientific theories of this, the greatest earth disturbance the United States has ever known.

THE GOSSIP.

## "Rule Britannia."

New Orleans Times-Democrat. One of the English papers gives the answers of certain board schoolboys who were asked to write down the whole or part of them gave the first line as "Royl Brick Tanner, Brick Tanner rules the way," while a third attempted a whole verse. This was his version: "The nations not so blest has he but still in stern but still stern to God most all this was the Chelter the Chelter of the stall and God in Angles sang the Starng Bulbiatanya biatanya oves the waves for Britains never will be slain. This boy ought to compete for the Prize

### The Month of Vacation.

If July was a vacation month, how much truer this is of August! Seashore and lakeside, mountain and hilltop, each is the Mecca of thousands seeking escape for the time being from encircling walls of stone and the glare of heated asphalt. And yet how few know how to get what they seek! And how many have yet to learn the real joy, the fun of living-of becoming once more primitive man and woman with great nature for a foster-mother, and for a week

# TWO BOYS FROM FARM

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

ALMOST A PARAPHRASE OF BIBLI-CAL STORY ABOUT TALENTS.

One, Promising in Youth, Becomes a Farm Hand, While Other, Slow

at First, "Does Wonders."

USUAL STORY OF BROTHERS

THE BRIGHT BOY REMAINED ON THE FARM TOO LONG.

His Brother, Who Came to the City, Soon Developed Force and Became a Well-Known Lawyer.

Out about twenty miles, on one of the railroads running east from Indianapolis, was a flag station known as Waysville, Through the advent of an electric road rural mail service and a fire it no longer exists, but a decade or two ago there was a smith, a small grain elevator, some cattle and pigpens, blacksmith shop district school and a half dozen dwellings. Where the wagon road crossed the tracks stood a long two-story frame building, having many small paned windows, a plain gable at each end and with the ridge of the roof sagging in the middle. This was the station, post office and general store, that was made up of a small stock of dry goods, staple groceries and miscellaneous supplies, such as kegs of different sized nails, a few trace chains, horse collar or two and at the rear a galvanized iron tank of coal oil, barrels of coarse salt and the red-

The clerk had a telegraph instrument begreat events, and with Mother Earth shak- day Waysville would become a telegraph

On the second floor was a large room, indifferently plastered with only a brown coat of mortar and barren of furnishings save a number of rough benches. It was here the band practiced, and the dances and farmers' institutes were held. And the shows, when some ventriloquist, phrenologist or sleight-of-hand man came along. On these occasions Mr. Rawlins, the postmaster, station agent and storekeeper, with the help of his clerk would go out in the side yard, bring in a lot of scantling kept for the purpose and place frequent braces through the store to prevent the floor above from breaking under the weight of the as-

About a mile up on the wagon road from Waysville was a 250 acre farm of Joshua McClure, and the comfortable house set back from the road with its foreground of a well-kept lawn, evergreen trees and flower beds-bordered with whitewashed bowlders. The house of two stories had a bedroom downstairs "in case of sickness," and the proverbially dark, unused parlor, smelling of stale air and the dye stuffs in the carpets, contained a set of haircloth furniture and a marble top center table. On the front wall were white bas-relief profiles in oval frames of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, and on the side wall two large colored lithographs, one an advertisement of a foundry, picturing a portable sawmill and traction engine in full operation in the woods, and the other representing the late Governor James D. Williams at a log rolling near Danville, Ind. On the table were a stack of books, each one carefully piled diagonally across the other, including the Bible, Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," Fox's "Book of Martyrs," Young's "Night Thoughts," a social hymn and tune book, "The Acts of the Legislature of 1876" and Gunn's "Domestic Physi-

On the shelf under the table was a stereoscope, one of the brass wires of which, that held the pictures, being lost, was replaced by a hairpin. Beside it were its accompanying double-viewed pictures-"Niagara Falls," "Glens of the Catskills." and a lot of fancy colored ones, including the "Angel's Whisper"-an old man, in a ragged red coat, short purple pants and blue socks, sitting beside a green latticed window, his eyes turned heavenward, and playing a fife. Another was the "Babe of the Woods," a highly colored picture of two children dressed in pink and blue, lying on a very green background of grass and ferns, with a scarlet-breasted robin perched on top of one of them. Under the

picture were the following lines: "No burial these pretty ones From any one receives Till robin-redbreast painfully Did cover them with leaves." JOSHUA M'CLURE'S FAMILY.

Joshua McClure's family consisted of his wife and two boys, Henry and James, who were as near the same age as possible without being twins. They looked and dressed alike, and were always together.

At school James was invariably at the head of his class, while his brother maintained an average. The teacher often said his father ought to give James a college education, but the latter remained silently indifferent. With their time out of school the boys put in doing light farm work. frequently bridling a couple of old plow horses and riding bareback to Waysville. where they listened to a lot of pessimistic agriculturists, who smoked smooth yellow cigars that, when the ends were bitten off. cracked like stepping on a cockroach. Mr. Rawlins, the store proprietor, often said: "The McClure boys wuz so quiet like and wuzn't always fightin' and scufflin' and clog dancin' like most of the boys that hung around the platform."

Each year as Joshua McClure harvested and sold his crops, paid his "hands," taxes, insurance and other incidentals connected with the business of farming he usually had about \$1,400 in cash with which to buy clothing, tea, coffee and sugar for the family. This took but the small part and after setting aside \$400 for litigations the balance he used for acquiring more land or loaning out at interest. He had his annual lawsuit as regularly as the circus came around, and if somebody didn't sue him he sued somebody. As it was always over trivial matters and with men equally aggressive they spent many times the amount involved in needless litigations. Very early in his career he had won a suit on a technicality, which ever afterwards, in spite of the advice of his attorney, had encouraged him to "law" every point of difference. For instance, if old man McClure rented the use of a pasture of one of the neighbors, his own grass being a little short, to fatten some cattle for the market, and afterwards found some of